

Please Join Us

NPSMA Workshop

April 10-11, 2014

“Workforce Challenges and Opportunities in the Food and Agriculture Industries”

**Keynote Speaker: Karen Ross
California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary**

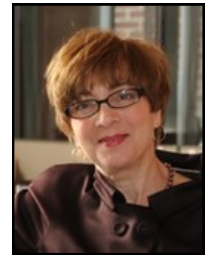
**Lafayette Park Hotel and Spa
Lafayette, California**



**Register here: <http://www.npsma.org/workshops>
Discount hotel reservations until March 19
Deadline to register: March 28**

NPSMA President Marilyn Wells Outlines 2014 Goals

I am humbled and honored to serve as the next President of NPSMA, especially following the tireless work and significant achievements in 2013, with David King as President. Clearly, our 300th PSM Milestone Event, held on November 12, 2013 in the Library of Congress, Washington, DC, was a highpoint! With an impressive slate of speakers representing policymaker perspectives on the role of the PSM in preparing highly skilled talent, university leaders perspectives on the importance of innovative degrees, business leaders and PSM graduates' perspectives on the value of the PSM degree in the workplace, and institutional founders and supporters of the PSM degree, the afternoon celebrated 15 years of continual growth. The event was made possible through the collaboration of many, including the support and partnership of the PSM National Office, at the Keck Graduate Institute (KGI). Please visit <http://www.PSMmilestone.com> to see the richness of the day, and to find great resources you can use in your own PSM endeavors. The Milestone event was followed by our NPSMA Workshop on Cybersecurity and NPSMA National Conference.



I thank everyone, including outgoing members of the Board of Directors, Bogdan Vernescu, Inge Wefes, and Peiru Wu, who worked to make these events, and all of 2013, highly successful.

Our challenge now, as a professional organization, is to engage in the present and envision our future. To achieve our aspirations, I welcome our new members of the Board of Directors, Saeed Foroudestan, Tara Johnson, and Carol Lynch. I also call upon each of you, as individual and institutional members, to actively participate in NPSMA. NPSMA is yours, and we need you – your experience, your leadership, and your passion! Whether you are just beginning on your PSM journey or more advanced, we have a space and a place for you. Please visit <http://www.npsma.org> to learn more about your organization and how you can reap the benefits of membership.

In this regard, my vision for NPSMA in 2014 is to achieve “new levels of greatness.” With our beginnings less than 10 years ago, we are relatively young as a professional association. With a solid foundation, we are now poised to move to a new stage of maturity. In 2013, the Board of Directors refreshed our strategic plan and considered future priorities, aligned with our mission, “to promote and support the growth and development of Professional Science Master’s degree programs.”

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NPSMA Activities During the Second Half of 2013

By David King, Professor of History and Dean, Graduate Studies and Research, State University of New York, Oswego



capable colleagues.

Reflecting on NPSMA activities during 2013, we need to acknowledge the leadership and support of the Board of Directors in planning a full agenda of interesting professional development programs and services for the PSM Community. It was an honor to serve as the President of NPSMA for 2013, and to collaborate with so many enthusiastic and

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Goals for 2014 *(continued from page 1)*

Building on this work, specific areas of focus for 2014 include expanding governmental relations to continue the momentum of the Milestone event, engaging our current members in deeper ways, and expanding our reach to new members and high-impact partnerships. Some examples of this work include:

- Government Relations and Advocacy – continuing to work together with our expert consultant and primary partners, namely the PSM National Office at KGI and the Council of Graduate Schools, to influence federal policymakers.
- PSM Development and Growth – continuing to cultivate development of new programs and grow student pipelines, such as our recent collaboration and joint endeavors with the Council for Undergraduate Research to achieve our mutual interests and goals.
- NPSMA National Advisory Board – re-imagining our advisory board to optimize opportunities.
- Marketing and Branding – marketing the PSM as the 21st century degree that provides the best preparation to contribute to the STEM workforce and our economic growth.
- NPSMA Events – expanding the scope and sessions of our National Conference to invite and engage PSM alumni, employers, and business partners.

While these primary goals will embody the majority of our work, we will continue to engage in deliberative dialogue on other important issues.

In closing, thank you for choosing to be a member of the NPSMA. Please consider contacting a Board member to discuss how you can get involved to make a difference, or say “yes” when asked by a Board member to serve and lead. Working together we can achieve possibilities not yet imagined.

2014 NPSMA Board of Directors Elected

We have a very committed and dedicated board in place for 2014.

President: Marilyn Wells, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Vice President: Deborah Silver, Executive Director, Professional Science Master's Program, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Convener: Sheila Thomas, State University Dean for Extended and Continuing Education, California State University System

Finance Officer: Joaquin Carbonara, Professor of Mathematics, SUNY Buffalo State College

Immediate Past President: David King, Professor of History and Dean, Graduate Studies and Research, State University of New York-Oswego

Cynthia Bainton, Administrative Manager, Biotechnology Programs, Northeastern University

David Dyer, Director, Program for Applied Biotechnology Studies, California State University, Fullerton

Saeed Foroudastan, Associate Dean, College of Basic and Applied Sciences

Joan Huber, Program Coordinator, Department of Plant Biology, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Tara Johnson, Assistant Director College of Graduate Studies, University of Central Florida

Patricia Komuniecki, Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Dean of College of Graduate Studies, University of Toledo

Carol Lynch, Dean Emerita, University of Colorado at Boulder

Michael Morad, Senior Manager, Global Quality Compliance, Cordis Corporation

Donald Pierson, Vice Provost, Graduate School of Education, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

Jean Schaake, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences, University of North Texas

300th PSM Milestone Event Held in Washington DC

By David King, NPSMA Immediate Past President; Professor of History and Dean, Graduate Studies and Research, State University of New York-Oswego



Carol Lynch, Michael Teitelbaum, Sheila Tobias, Juliette Bell

On November 12, 2013 in the Members Room of the Library of Congress, the NPSMA and the PSM National Office at KGI, co-sponsored the 300th PSM Milestone briefing for Congressional staff members and representatives of other government agencies. The members of Congress who hosted

the event were Rep. Richard Hanna (R-NY) and Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ). Approximately 100 people attended. The Milestone event planning committee was led by David King (President of NPSMA) and Jim Sterling (Director, PSM National Office at KGI).



James Sterling, Debra Stewart, Michael Teitelbaum, David King

The 300th Milestone event celebrated the registration of 300 PSM programs at 127 universities between its inception in 1997 and 2013. This represents amazing expansion of the PSM degree over a period of only 17 years with significant support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and the Council of Graduate Schools.

The featured speakers included Representatives Hanna and Holt, SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher, University of Maryland Eastern Shore President Juliette Bell, KGI President Sheldon Schuster, US Patent Office Examiners Gray Benzion and Christopher Babic, representatives from the Georgetown University Medical Center on Biomedical Informatics Subha Madhavan and Shruti Rao, as well as the President of the



James Sterling, Richard Hanna, Nancy Zimpher, Juliette Bell, David King

Council of Graduate Schools Debra Stewart, and Sloan Foundation PSM Senior Advisor Michael Teitelbaum. The moderator was Ross Grossman, Vice President at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals.

The 300th PSM program is a STEM program in Sustainable Energy Systems at SUNY Cortland. Dean Bruce Mattingly and Physics Chair Brice Smith were there to receive recognition from SUNY Chancellor Zimpher.



Nancy Zimpher, Bruce Mattingly, Brice Smith

The NPSMA and the PSM National Office at KGI collaborated on this event with organizational assistance from Patty McAllister.

For more detailed information about the Milestone event, please refer to the dedicated website at <http://www.PSMmilestone.com>.

Second Half of 2013 (continued from page 2)

Early in the year, the NPSMA moved forward with planning workshops in Data Sciences at WPI in May and in Cyber Security at Arlington in November, as well as the National Conference in Arlington, November 14-15. The Board also decided to develop a relationship with the Council on Undergraduate Research.

Sheila Tobias finalized her initial research project focused on the tracking of 3,400 PSM graduates from dozens of PSM programs in 15 states. Her findings included data that the number of PSM graduates has increased from a handful in 2,000 to nearly 600 in 2012 (just from the 15 states in the study). The majority of PSM graduates find jobs in the state where they completed their degree. Employment type includes: 31% are working for large companies; 16% work in education; 14% in small companies; and small percentages work for smaller companies, non-profits or government agencies.

Planning proceeded with the arrangements for a Milestone event to celebrate the registration of the 300th PSM program seventeen years after the launch of the PSM movement by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation in 1997. The Board agreed to sponsor a national Milestone event on November 12th at the Library of Congress in Washington hosted by members of Congress in conjunction with the NPSMA National Conference held later that week. There is a more detailed description of the Milestone event elsewhere in this newsletter.

Other initiatives pursued by the Board of Directors included the extension and expansion of the PSM Ambassadors program based on the efforts launched by Michael Morad and David Jay. We also focused on recruiting more university and system memberships in NPSMA given the incentives from the Sloan Foundation which offered reimbursement of institutional membership fees over a 3 year period (75%, 50% and then 25% in the 3rd year).

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NPSMA 4th National Conference Summary

By Marilyn Wells, NPSMA President; Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Minnesota State University, Mankato

High Impact Partnerships: Building on 15 Years of Innovative Professional Science Master’s Education was the theme for the NPSMA 4th National Conference, held on November 14-15, 2013 in Arlington, Virginia. In addition to celebrating strong and successful partnerships built to date, this theme was selected to leverage the conference’s location near Washington, DC to engage new corporate, government, university, and non-profit leaders and to attract new participants.



Looking back, the conference achieved both goals. First, the event realized a record-high 116 participants, with many being first-time attendees to an NPSMA conference. Second, across the two-day program, there were two keynote

addresses, six plenary sessions, and eight concurrent sessions which featured 34 invited speakers who represented national professional associations, government agencies, and industry partnerships based in the DC region.

For example, in the concurrent session, “Building Efficient Pathways for STEM Workforce Development, Marcus Lingenfelter, Executive Director of State Relations, the National Math Science Initiative described how this new public-private partnership with donor support is generating intellectual capital in STEM. Likewise, John Iacobucci, Program Manager, the Commonwealth STEM Industry Internship Program, Virginia Space Grant Consortium spoke about connecting government and industry to establish internships.



Yet another speaker was Randall Ribaldo, Co-founder, SciPhD Training Programs and President/CEO, Human Workflows LLC, who spoke as a “scientist entrepreneur” on “Training Scientists for the Realities of the Job Market.” Elizabeth Ambos, Executive Officer, Council of Undergraduate Research and Rebecca Martin, Executive Director, National Association of System Heads represented “just beginning” and “advanced” partnerships with PSM programs. While Conference attendees learned about new potential partners across sectors, our invited speakers also learned about PSM degrees, and how our organizations might work together to achieve mutual goals.



Other high points in the program were PSM state and system leaders, and program directors, who spoke about success stories and lessons learned over the first 15 years. Bogdan

Vernescu, Professor of Mathematical Sciences, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) and Immediate Past President, NPSMA, shared compelling points and recommendations from NPSMA’s spring 2013 Workshop on PSM Opportunities in Data Sciences.

A new element to the Conference this year were the “dinner roundtables” – an idea borrowed from the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) “New Deans Institute and Summer Workshop”. In short, NPSMA members generously shared of their time and expertise to hosted small groups of participants for an evening of dinner and conversation on a focused topic at local dining establishments. One participant wrote, “Our dinner roundtable discussion was excellent. We exchanged experience about our individual PSM programs...”



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Cyber Security Workshop Summary

By Deborah Silver, NPSMA Vice President; PSM Program Executive Director, Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

The NPSMA Workshop on “PSM Opportunities in Cyber Security” was held on November 13, 2013, sandwiched in between two big Professional Science Master’s (PSM) events, the day after the PSM Milestone celebration and the day before the 4th NPSMA National Conference. The focus of the workshop was on opportunities for new PSM programs in cyber security



and we heard from a range of speakers including those from universities, industries and government. Most excitedly, we heard about the expected need for cyber security professionals in the coming years (the one potential bright spot on an otherwise grey job-opportunities landscape). The various career options for students at all levels as well as the different career opportunities in both the government and private sector were discussed. Most interestingly, the opportunities involved technical and non-technical skills. Karen Leuschner, who is the Program Manager for the National Center for Academic Excellence, Information Assurance Directorate, and Dan Stein, Program Lead, National Cybersecurity Training and Education Program, Cybersecurity Education and Awareness Branch, Stakeholder Engagement and Cyber Infrastructure Resilience Division, U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), spoke about the educational initiatives and requirements which are ongoing. The National Security Agency (NSA) and DHS jointly sponsor the Center for Academic Excellence whose goal is to promote education and research in Information Assurance and provide some national standards in education. These are important resources for new programs considering offering degrees. Most importantly, we heard from all of the speakers about why Cyber Security is best suited for a professional science master’s degree – it involves both understanding technology, but also ethics, public policy and business processes. The speakers from Industry emphasized this need as did the educators. As Maurice Uenuma, from the Council of Cyber Security, stated: “Cyber professionals must be able to integrate into the core business”, he went on to state, “Cybersecurity is inherently interdisciplinary, it is not just about securing networks and databases. We must build security into all systems and processes. This mission cannot be accomplished by technical prowess alone.”

2013 NPSMA Awards

Each year at its National Conference held in November, NPSMA presents awards to outstanding members of the PSM community. Nominations for awards are accepted throughout the year. For more information, go to <http://www.npsma.org/awards>.

The 2013 award recipients were honored in Arlington, VA:



Board of Directors Award: (left photo) Dagmar Beck of Rice University, accepts award from David King (Cynthia Bainton on left).



Board of Directors Award: (right photo) Peiru Wu of Michigan State University, accepts award from David King (Cynthia Bainton on left).



President's Award: (left photo) Award recipient, Bogdan Vernescu, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, with Cynthia Bainton and David King.



Advisory Board Award: (right photo) Vanecia Harrison-Sanders of Northeastern University accepted on behalf of award recipient EMD Serono, Inc., with Cynthia Bainton and David King.



Certificate of Special Recognition (posthumous): Eleanor Babco

Second Half of 2013 (continued from page 3)

Bogdan Vernescu led the planning for the workshop entitled "Opportunities in Data Sciences" which was held at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) in Massachusetts on May 28-29.

On March 8th, several PSM leaders gathered at the Keck Graduate Institute at the invitation of the PSM National Office Director Jim Sterling, for the annual meeting of the National PSM Steering Committee – a project funded by a Sloan Foundation grant to KGI designated for PSM advancement and supporting rebates for NPSMA membership. Several representatives from the NPSMA Board of Directors attended the meeting.

On June 13th, the NPSMA had a virtual retreat designed to offer time for a more extended discussion of several important issues: reviewing the SWOT analysis, outlining a new strategic plan for NPSMA, discussing the status of Sheila Tobias' PSM alumni tracking project, discussion of possible affiliation with IntroMaps, and strategies for increasing NPSMA membership through the reimbursement program.

The Board agreed to subscribe to IntroMaps, which provides a very useful service for PSM students, graduates, program directors and employees who are seeking to access a graphic network of PSM graduates.

Cynthia Bainton chaired a committee that developed a new transition plan for NPSMA, in lieu of a new strategic plan. The new plan focuses on ways to establish sustainable memberships and operating income, and the need for recruiting a new part-time Executive Director for NPSMA.

Among the publications showcasing the PSM was the November issue of Scientific American which featured a lengthy article entitled "Guide to Professional Science Master's." Another was an article entitled "A Sharp New Focus on Job Skills" from U.S. News' "Best Grad Schools" guide for 2014, written by Chris Gearon.

With NSF funding assistance, the "Proceedings" from the "Creating Tomorrow's Mathematics Professionals" were published, which included the presentations from the 2011 NPSMA workshop by the same name led by Joaquin Carbonara and Bogdan Vernescu.

On November 12th, more than 80 people attended the highly successful 300th PSM Milestone event in the Members Room of the Library of Congress, hosted by Congressmen Holt and Hanna. In conjunction with this event, Deborah Silver led the planning committee for the Cyber Security workshop held on November 13th.

On November 14-15 Marilyn Wells and Inge Wefes led the planning committee for NPSMA 4th National Conference, the best attended one to date.

NPSMA Institution Member News

This newsletter serves as a venue for NPSMA institution members to make program announcements and attract national visibility. To receive full benefits and best practices advice for new programs, we encourage all non-member institutions to join the NPSMA.

Illinois Institute of Technology's Master of Data Science Program Launched with Great Success

By Amy Dauernheim, Program Coordinator, Illinois Institute of Technology

In its second semester, the Master of Data Science program at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), offered jointly by the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Applied Mathematics, is underway and off to a great start. With enrollments exceeding projected expectations, and more applications flowing in, the program has gained traction quickly.

Less than a year ago, IIT's data science program was conceived as a response to a growing need for people who could turn big data into intelligent insights. With this outcome in mind, the program was designed for bright, curious students with strong backgrounds in mathematics, computation, life and physical sciences, engineering, and business who want to delve deeply into data, not only to extract answers from data but to ask the right questions. "Educating data scientists is a multifaceted task," said Shlomo Argamon, professor of computer science and director of the program. "We teach our students the theory and practice of statistics, data mining, and scalable computing in depth; train them in communications and design skills; and provide them with practical experience integrating their knowledge, guided by academic and industrial mentors."

Argamon added, "Of particular importance is the fact that we weave discussion of ethical principles and their application throughout the curriculum, to ensure that our graduates will be prepared to act with the highest standards of professionalism."

This interdisciplinary and ethics-based approach has garnered the attention of major publications such as *Forbes*, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, and the *Harvard Business Review*. *Information Management* says, "Look for the continued emergence of data science curricula in academia, with new Masters' programs like those at NYU, Columbia, Berkeley and Illinois Institute of Technology supplanting first generation Predictive Analytics kin. The winning curricula, like the winning data science book, will combine the vision, organization and rigor of academy with attention to the day-to-day technical demands of practitioners."

To learn more about Illinois Institute of Technology's Master of Data Science program, visit <http://science.iit.edu/programs/graduate/master-data-science>.



University of Chicago Graham School Launches New Degree Program

By Tracey L. Schroeder, Director of Marketing Services and Enrollment Management, The University of Chicago Graham School

The University of Chicago Graham School has launched a new degree program, the Master of Science in Analytics. This winter, the first class of students started advanced analytical training aimed at developing their ability to draw insights from extremely large amounts of data, including: data collection, preparation and integration; statistical methods and modeling; and other sophisticated techniques for analyzing complex data.

The program is highly applied in nature, integrating business strategy, project-based learning, simulations, case studies, and specific electives addressing the analytical needs of various sectors. The program will also build partnerships with key employers to provide students with applied projects and data sets as well as access to career networks and employment pathways upon graduation.

For more information on the program, visit <https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/credit/master-science-analytics/index>.

Michigan State University's PSM Program in Industrial Mathematics Held Industrial Advisor Contact Day

By Peiru Wu, Director, Professional Science Master's Program in Industrial Mathematics, Michigan State University

The Professional Science Master's (PSM) program in Industrial Mathematics at Michigan State University is one of the longest running PSM programs in the US. This program was designed from its inception by advisors from local industry and by the industrial advisors to the Sloan Foundation in late 90s. They made the recommendations such as professional training (realized by the Certificate Program); emphasis on writing and presentation (realized throughout the program); exposure to industrial problem solving (realized by spring-term project course); and exposure to other disciplines (as realized by four cognate courses). One of our major successes is the strong connections with many companies in Michigan through the active industrial advisory board and spring-term industrial projects sponsorship.



Industrial advisors to the program come to the campus for the annual "Industrial Advisor Contact Day (IACD)" event each fall. The 2013 IACD was held on MSU campus last November, and it is a half-day event that provides opportunities for the students to meet and talk with the professionals from industry. The advisors from local companies such as Auto-Owners Insurance, Chrysler Group LLC, Ford Motor Credit, Ford Scientific Research Laboratory, Herman Miller, Steelcase, and Towers Watson, had a lunch meeting with the Chair of Department of Mathematics, Director of Graduate Studies, and Director of PSM Program, and followed by several hours of mock interviews with our students.

The IACD is one of traditional annual events in the program for many years. The goal of this event is to help students gain a better understanding of different industrial careers, and also develop a relationship between the advisors and the industrial mathematics students. The students' comments and feedback are evident that the 2013 IACD is another success: "I participat-

ed in the 2013 IACD and completed 5 mock interviews with Chrysler Group LLC, Ford Motor Research lab, Herman Miller, Steelcase Inc., and Towers Watson. Overall, it was an educational experience for me." "We had a very lively conversation about big data in general, and exchanged information." "Overall both mock interviews were very beneficial in learning about Steelcase and Herman Miller along with understanding some analytical roles that are needed at furniture companies."

The students have not only gained experience and knowledge from interaction with industrial professionals, but also received feedback and encouragements from the advisors. "It was a very positive experience since the interviewers seemed to be very interested in my background and encouraged me to apply for positions at their companies." "I look forward to using their feedback and improving my interviewing skills." "I thought the IACD was a very rewarding experience. I feel more confident now about my future job prospects after having the opportunity to meet with people looking to employ someone with my set of skills." "I received valuable advice during the two mock interviews. These are my best two mock interview experiences I have ever had!" Overall, our students have benefitted greatly from the annual IACD event. With no doubt, our industrial advisory board has been a valuable resource to support of the PSM program at MSU in the past 15 years.

Rebate Program for NPSMA Memberships

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation awarded the PSM Office at the Keck Graduate Institute (KGI) funding for a rebate program that provides membership dues rebates for **new** institutional members of the National Professional Science Master's Association. This rebate program is not dependent upon your application for PSM affiliation with the PSM office at KGI.

If your university would like to take advantage of the rebate program between now and **October 31, 2014**, you will be reimbursed 50% of the NPSMA membership fee. The rebate program works as follows:

- University joins the NPSMA for one year (\$2,000).
- University completes rebate form and W9 to send to KGI along with NPSMA membership receipt.
- KGI reimburses the university 50% of membership fee.

Download the rebate form and W9 [here](#). Join the NPSMA [here](#) or print the form on the last page of this newsletter.

If you would like a NPSMA membership invoice to be sent to you, or you think we should contact another member of your university's administration, please contact Debra Warren-Hite at admin@npsma.org.

A New Beginning: Rice University National Professional Science Master's Association Chapter (RUNPSMA)

By RUNPSMA Club Officers: Anubhav Dixit, President; Connie Foo, Secretary; and Dagmar Beck, Faculty Advisor

The Rice University National Professional Science Master's Association Chapter, or RUNPSMA, has had an eventful year. RUNPSMA launched a professional development series for the Professional Science Master's students. The Journeys of Professional Science Masters series provide PSM students the opportunity to interact with working professionals who share their knowledge and experiences at these events. These working professionals include PSM alumni who are investing in the success of their future colleagues and helping them establish a strong foothold in the competitive industry.



In October 2013, RUNPSMA had its first event, "Resumania" - a review of resumes organized as a panel discussion. The panelists included 5 PSM alumni representing different tracks. Each panelist spoke about his or her career path and how the Professional Science Master's degree has benefitted their life. In addition to sharing about their professional journeys, the panelists brought samples of their resumes in order to explain resume writing. After discussing the basics about resume content and format, the panelists reviewed and critiqued the RUNPSMA members' resumes. Each resume was displayed on the projector screen using a document camera for about 30 seconds (usually this is the amount of time a recruiter takes). This facilitated the panelists' ability to review the resume, while also engaging the RUNPSMA members in the audience. After the event, a social was held for all participants to provide an opportunity for the RUNPSMA members to interact with the panelists and other PSM Alumni to learn more about their experiences.

The following month, RUNPSMA hosted its second event with the focus on "Speed Networking." During the event, there was a speaker from Rice University's Center for Career Development who spoke about LinkedIn profiles. Not only did she reiterate the importance of having a LinkedIn profile, but expanded on other resources that LinkedIn offers to assist an individual to secure an internship or maybe full-time offers. Another guest speaker, who represented the Health Care Industry working in their HR division, provided guidance on how to be better prepared for presenting one's elevator pitches in front of a professional audience. The rest of the evening was filled with food and conversations, giving the RUNPSMA members, PSM alumni, and guests an opportunity to interact and network.

In February 2014, RUNPSMA hosted a workshop to help prepare students for the Annual Professional Science Master's Corporate Reception hosted by the Professional Science Master's program office. In this workshop RUNPSMA secured expert faculty from the Jones Business School. Students learned how to engage others in conversation during a corporate reception. In addition, guidelines were provided on what to expect at these type of events, how to dress, what to bring, etc. This was especially helpful for new and international students who have never attended a corporate reception. After the workshop we held a social for everybody to meet and practice their newly acquired corporate reception etiquette skills.

The RUNPSMA club officers have worked diligently and committed to organize the "Journeys of Professional Science Masters" professional development series. We hope that by organizing these events, we will better prepare our member base for the outside competitive corporate world. These events have brought together working professionals and current Professional Science Master's students from the various tracks available at Rice University--Bioscience and Health Policy, Environmental Analysis and Decision Making, Nanoscale Physics, Space Studies, and Subsurface Geoscience. RUNPSMA hopes to continue expanding the reach of the Professional Science Master's program and its members.



Update from Sacred Heart University

By Jennifer Mattei, Professor of Biology, Director, Professional Science Master's, Environmental Science and Management, Sacred Heart University; Mark Beekey, John Rapaglia, and Latina Steele

The graduate students in the Professional Science Master's (PSM) program in Environmental Science and Management at Sacred Heart University have been playing the roles to assist researchers from the Biology Department at SHU and staff from the Connecticut Audubon Society and the DuPont Corporation to restore the coastal habitat at Stratford Point, Connecticut. This restoration activity, to date, has already included a prescribed burn, upland planting, and coastal dune reconstruction.

We have requested funding for this long-term project from various agencies to restore 40 acres of estuarine habitat. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Long Island Sound Futures Fund recently awarded us a grant to start building the living shoreline. DuPont has also offered matching funds to add additional length to the proposed reef and marsh installment. The project is anticipated to begin this spring. We have research stipends available to support PSM students and we are accepting applications through April 2014.



NPSMA 4th National Conference (continued from page 4)

The Closing Keynote Address featured three distinguished leaders in higher education – James D. Moran, III, Carol Lynch, and Donald Langenberg – who offered their perspectives and recommendations on “Driving the Future of the PSM Movement.”

Following are some comments from the conference evaluations:

“Good choice of hotel - convenient location and the perfect size for the meeting. The staff members were uniformly pleasant and helpful. I think the meeting should be held every other year in DC.” “Some great opportunities to meet and network.”



“Excellent networking opportunity. Developed very promising relationships!!”

“It was great opportunity meeting new people and chatting with old friends at the networking reception every year.”



“Excellent conference!”

“Amazingly comprehensive, knowledgeable about PSM.” [in regard to Rebecca Martin presentation]

“Conference was well organized, and speakers were excellent and appropriate.”

“I attended the NPSMA award presentation which was great.”

“It's rewarding to see long-time NPSMA members be recognized for their efforts.”

Update from Middle Tennessee State University

By Saeed D. Foroudastan, NPSMA Board Member; Associate Dean, College of Basic and Applied Sciences, Middle Tennessee State University



The Professional Science Master's (PSM) is an interdisciplinary degree that educates students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) while familiarizing them to the logistics of the business industry. At MTSU this degree takes form as the Masters of Science in Professional Science (MSPS) program; at its inception the program housed concentrations in biotechnology and biostatistics. Due to the renowned success of the program and its graduate's the MSPS program at MTSU has been recognized on both the national and international level and now includes additional concentrations such as actuarial sciences, health care informatics, geosciences, and engineering management. There are over 150 students in these programs and we are graduating between 40 to 50 students per year.

Education in Professional and Research Ethics for PSM Programs

By Camille Nebeker, Family and Preventive Medicine, School of Medicine, University of California, San Diego

Teaching graduate students about the ethical and responsible conduct of research (RCR) is an expectation of faculty mentors and a requirement for select trainees who receive support from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). The purpose of this education event is to educate students to be aware of the established norms and ethical principles related to the practice of scientific research. Instructional content typically addresses aspects of planning, conducting and reporting research (e.g. bias, data management, authorship standards). However, the conventions, norms, regulations and ethics associated with academic expectations may not reflect the standards of practice in cross sector research environments in which PSM students and graduates will be employed. As such, those who teach about Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) will need to actively engage students in a learning process that fosters the competencies needed to identify and navigate ethical dimensions in a wide range of possible science professions.

A teaching guide was developed for PSM programs to assist faculty in developing relevant professional and research ethics education. A preliminary version of "Teaching Responsible Conduct of Research: A Resource Guide for Professional Science Master's Degree Programs" is available upon request (Email: nebeker@ucsd.edu). Several of the instructional techniques used in the Guide were field-tested with students, faculty and employers affiliated with PSM programs. The curriculum development process and associated publications was supported, in part, by a National Science Foundation (NSF) Ethics Education in Science and Engineering (EASE) award.

What is IntroMaps?



IntroMaps in NPSMA's newest membership benefit. It is a benefit that NPSMA Academic Institution Members can also offer to their PSM alumni.

IntroMaps is a visual online directory that allows you to access fellow members geographically. IntroMaps automatically introduces you to other members based on location and career commonalities with the intent of providing each member with direct networking opportunities. Don't forget to post jobs or volunteer opportunities for all NPSMA members to see via the automated weekly digest email. Do you have PSM classmates that want access? They can [click here](#) to request access.

Thank You!

Thank you to all the NPSMA Board members who contributed to making 2013 an exciting and productive year for the NPSMA.



Special thanks to Debra Warren-Hite who is the glue that holds our organization together.

We are grateful to the many of you in the PSM community who continue to value and advance the PSM movement.



Photo of 2013 NPSMA Board of Directors (left to right, front row): Peiru Wu, Cynthia Bainton, Marilyn Wells, Patricia Komuniecki, David King, President; Joan Huber. (left to right, back row): Inge Wefes, Convener; Don Langenberg, Director of Strategic Planning and External Projects; Joaquin Carbonara, Finance Officer; Michael Morad, Jean Schaaque, Don Pierson, Bogdan Vernescu, Immediate Past President; David Dyer. (missing from photo): Deborah Silver, Vice President; Sheila Thomas.

NPSMA Executive Committee and Staff

- President: Marilyn Wells (Minnesota State University, Mankato)
- Vice President: Deborah Silver (Rutgers University)
- Convener: Sheila Thomas (California State University)
- Finance Officer: Joaquin Carbonara (SUNY Buffalo State College)
- Immediate Past President: David King (SUNY Oswego)
- Director of Strategic Planning and External Projects: Donald Langenberg (University System of Maryland)
- Coordinator: Debra Warren-Hite

Newsletter

Editors: Peiru Wu, Joan Huber
 Layout and Design: Debra Warren-Hite

The Voice of the PSM is published biannually by the NPSMA. Send newsletter submissions to admin@npsma.org.



Invoice For Annual Membership Dues

(The NPSMA is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization; Tax ID # 20-8766099)

Please Check Appropriate Membership:

New **Renewal**

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- Academic System** (minimum of six campuses) \$1,500/campus
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